# READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE VIRTUAL ONLINE MEETING –January 19, 2021

Mayor Albanese *calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor J. Albanese, Deputy Mayor J. Heller, Mrs. BA Fort, Mr. J. Huelsebusch

and Mr. B. Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney S. Dragan

**ABSENT:** None

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Clerk read the following Resolution:

# RESOLUTION EXECUTIVE SESSION

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

*WHEREAS*, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

*NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit "A."

## **EXHIBIT A**

Subject Matter Bas				pated Wh Public	<u>hen</u>
Department of Public Works		of the	Townshij		tonightother
Professional Services	. Contract Negotiations	"	"	"	

- Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP (Township Auditors)
- ◆ McManimon & Scotland (Bond Counsel)
- Martin Allen, Esq. (Tax Appeal Attorney)
- Fisher & Phillips LLP (Labor Attorney)
- Scott Mitzner, Esq. (Public Defender)
- Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)
- Jennifer Toth, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)
- Clarke→Caton→ Hintz (Township Planners)
- ◆ AEIS (Inspection Svcs. for Lake Cushetunk Dam)
- ◆ Finelli Consulting Engineers Inc (Conflict Engineer)
- Surenian, Edwards & Nolan LL (Special Counsel)
- River Net Computer LLC (Computer & Printer Maintenance)
- Brian Davis, Esq. / Stephen Davis, Esq. (Municipal Prosecutor)
- ◆ Van Cleef Engineering (Township Engineer)
- Animal Control Solutions (Animal Control Services)
- Richard Cushing (Gebhardt & Kiefer)
- Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Township Attorney)

Oakland Drive West Pump	Contract Negotiations	"	"	"
Pump Station Upgrade				

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 2 of 31

Access Easement Agreement Contract Negotiations	••	••		••
Executive Session Minutes Attorney-Client Privilege	"		66	"
Affordable Housing	"		"	•
Contract Negotiations Attorney-Client Privilege	"		"	"
Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation) Litigation		66 G		٤،
Civil Action Summons / Litigation Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery Association vs. Township of Readington and Committee of the Township of Readington		" Fowns	" ship o	

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit "A."

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Albanese led those present in the Salute to the Flag.

## **Executive Session:**

## Personnel / Department of Public Works

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to promote Seth Duryea to the position of Sr. Driver/Laborer effective January 26, 2021, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 3 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Lerch, Vinci & Higgins (Township Auditors)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-15

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL AUDITOR SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Auditing Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Municipal Auditor Services at an annual rate of \$36,900.00.

WHEREAS, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 4 of 31

#### Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / McManimon & Scotland (Bond Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-16

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR BOND ATTORNEY SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Bond Attorney Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Bond Attorney Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 5 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Martin Allen, Esq. (Tax Appeal Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-17

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR TAX ATTORNEY/BANKRUPTCY SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Tax Attorney/Bankruptcy Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Martin Allen, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Tax Attorney/Bankruptcy Services at a rate of \$175 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2021 budget.

WHEREAS, Martin Allen, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Martin Allen, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Martin Allen, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Martin Allen, Esq. as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 6 of 31

# Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Fisher & Phillips, LLP (Labor Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-18

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Labor Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Fisher & Phillips, LLP has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Labor Counsel Services for rates as follows:

- Partner-Level Attorney \$360.00 per hour.
- Senior Associate \$295.00 per hour.
- Junior Associate \$225.00 per hour

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Fisher & Phillips, LLP has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Fisher & Phillips, LLP has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Fisher & Phillips, LLP from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fisher & Phillips, LLP as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 7 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Scott Mitzner, Esq. (Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-19

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Scott Mitzner, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$110 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2021 budget.

WHEREAS, Scott Mitzner, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Scott Mitzner, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Scott Mitzner, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Scott Mitzner, Esq. as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 8 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Anthony Rotunno, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-20

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. of Kuchinsky and Rotunno, PC. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$95 per hour; and

*WHEREAS*, Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 9 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Jennifer Toth, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-21

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. of Winegar, Wilhelm, Glynn & Roemersma has submitted a proposal indicating she will provide Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$95 per hour; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 10 of 31

# Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Clarke-Caton-Hintz (Township Planners)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-22

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Planning and Landscape Architectural Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Clarke Caton Hintz has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Planning and Landscape Architectural Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2021 budget.

WHEREAS, Clarke+Caton+Hintz has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Clarke+Caton+Hintz has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Clarke+Caton+Hintz from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Clarke•Caton•Hintz as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately. **A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 11 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / AEIS (Inspection Services for Lake Cushetunk Dam)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-23

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE LAKE CUSHETUNK DAM

WHEREAS, there exists a need in the Township of Readington for Professional Services; and

**WHEREAS**, The Local Public Contract Law (*N.J.S.A.*40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the Resolution hiring a professional for professional services with competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington as follows:

- 1. That the following contract has been awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered or to be performed are by persons authorized by law to practice their profession:
  - AEIS (Advanced Engineering & Inspection Services) for inspection services for the Lake Cushetunk Dam at a cost of \$17,600.00
    - 2. Said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021.
- 3. Copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection.
  - 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 12 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Finelli Engineering Consulting (Conflict Engineer)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-24

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL CONFLICT MUNICIPAL ENGINEER / INSPECTION SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire the services for a backup/conflict Professional Engineer on an as needed basis as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provision of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5 and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19.44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19.44a-8, *et. seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, Finelli Consulting Engineers, Inc., has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Engineering/Construction Inspection Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Finelli Consulting Engineers, Inc., has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Finelli Consulting Engineers, Inc., has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Finelli Consulting Engineers, Inc., from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file -N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4)

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Finelli Consulting Engineers, Inc., as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 13 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Surenian, Edwards & Nolan (Special Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-25

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Special Litigation Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Surenian, Edwards & Nolan, LLC has submitted proposal indicating he will act as Special Litigation Counsel at the following rates: Attorney – \$200 per hour in addition to lower rates for supporting personnel; for the following matters:

Re: Township of Readington Affordable Housing Obligations

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Surenian, Edwards & Nolan, LLC, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Surenian, Edwards & Nolan, LLC, as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 14 of 31

# Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / River Net Computers (Computer & Printer Maintenance)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-26

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER AND PRINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Computer and Printer Maintenance Services; and

**WHEREAS,** River Net Computers LLC has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Computer and Printer Maintenance Services at a rate of \$220 per month (\$2640 annually) and after two (2) *no charge* on-site visits, \$49.99 per visit plus \$99 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes entering into a contract with River Net Computers LLC has described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 15 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Brian Davis, Esq. / Stephen Davis, Esq. (Municipal Prosecutor)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-27

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Prosecutor services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, Brian Davis and Stephen Davis, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Municipal Prosecutor services for \$150 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Brian Davis and Stephen Davis, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Stephen Davis, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Stephen Davis, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Brian and Stephen Davis, Esq. as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 16 of 31

# Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Van Cleef Engineering (Township Engineer)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-28

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL, ENGINEERING AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYING SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveying Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provision of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5 and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19.44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19.44a-8, *et. seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, Van Cleef Engineering Associates, has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveying Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Van Cleef Engineering Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Van Cleef Engineering Associates, has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Van Cleef Engineering Associates, from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file -N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Van Cleef Engineering Associates as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 17 of 31

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Animal Control Solutions (Animal Control Services)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-29

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Animal Control Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500.00; and

*WHEREAS*, Animal Control Solutions has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Animal Control Services at an annual rate of \$26,496; and

WHEREAS, Animal Control Solutions has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Animal Control Solutions has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Animal Control Solutions from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Animal Control Solutions as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 18 of 31

# Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Richard Cushing (Gebhardt& Kiefer (Special Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-30

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Special Litigation Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC has submitted a proposal indicating they will act as Special Litigation Counsel at the following rates:

- Readington v. Solberg (Appeal)
   \$335 per hour for Partners
   \$285 per hour for Associates
   \$120 per hour for Paralegals
- 2. 388 Route 22 Holdings, LLC Readington Realty v. Twp of Readington \$300 per hour for Attorney \$250 per hour for Associates
- 3. Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery v. Twp of Readington \$220 per hour for Attorney \$100 per hour for Paralegal
- 4. New Matters to be determined

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC, as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 19 of 31

Resolution #R-2021-30 cont'd:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller -Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. / Mason Griffin Pierson (Township Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-31

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Township Attorney Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5 *et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A.* 19:44a-8, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

*WHEREAS*, Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) has submitted a proposal indicating she will act as Township Attorney at an annual rate of \$140,400 based on an estimated average of 85-90 hours per month; and

WHEREAS, Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C.* 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2021 budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) as described herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 20 of 31

#### Resolution #R-2021-31 cont'd:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

## Contract Negotiations / Oakland Drive West Pump Station Upgrade

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the change order for DeMaio Electrical Company Inc. for the Oakland Drive West Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrades in the amount of \$26,781.76, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

# Contract Negotiations / Access Easement Agreement (Ryland Developers)

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

#### Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / December 21, 2020

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of December 21, 2020 for content only, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

## Attorney-Client Privilege / Contract Negotiations

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Litigation / Solberg Aviation / Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lot 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Litigation / Civil Action Summons / Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery Association vs. Township of Readington and the Township Committee of the Township of Readington

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Albanese read the following statement:

All items listed with an asterisk "\*" are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 21 of 31

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested to remove *Item #2, Item #5 and the minutes from the December 30, 2020 meeting* from the Consent Agenda.

1. \* **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of December 21, 2020 and January 4, 2021

# 2. \* Sewer Overpayments

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

# **READINGTON TOWNSHIP**

## HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, there exist several sewer overpayments from 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, the Sewer Collector desires to apply the following overpayments to the amounts due for 2021 prior to the printing and mailing of the sewer bills:

<b>BLOCK</b>	<u>LOT</u>	AMOUNT
4	69	\$ 113.33
13	16	230.00
18	9	115.00
21.01	2	115.41
21.01	99	110.00
21.01	110	114.22
21.03	204.01	40.51
21.04	508.01	112.14
21.04	703.03	235.00
21.06	507.02	15.00
21.07	10	111.28
21.11	3	115.00
21.12	46.07	109.78
21.13	10	113.33
22	31	10.00
22	40.07 C02	120.00
22	40.07 C06	228.57
22	40.09 C04	10.33
22	40.14 C01	62.55
23	6	40.00
29	5	24.73
30	12.05	11.50
30.01	13	22.67
34	36.019	10.00
34	36.113	288.91
34	36.127	80.92
34	36.135	16.32
34	36.198	114.73
34	36.252	19.68
34	36.269	115.00
34	36.284	11.17
36	5.03	18.28
36	49.041	115.11

#### Sewer Overpayment Resolution cont'd:

<b>BLOCK</b>	<u>LOT</u>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
36	49.099	46.67
36	49.100	44.18
36	49.104	75.19
36	49.128	7.33
36	133	84.73
36	176	112.00
37.01	13	115.00
42	4	229.48
73.03	3	35.03
95	12.020	68.77
95	12.102	115.19
95	12.174	9.20
95	12.182	8.12
95	12.242	40.00
95	12.250	6.91
95	12.286	115.00
95	12.302	90.00
95	12.393	5.40

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington that the Sewer Collector is hereby authorized to apply the above-referenced 2020 sewer overpayments to 2021 sewer fees receivable.

- 3. \* 2021 Sewer Rate memo dated January 11, 2021 from Michael Balogh, Tax Collector
- 4. \* Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property (Department of Public Works)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

# #R-2021-32

# TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington is desirous of selling said surplus property in an "as is" condition without express or implied warranties.

## **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Readington as follows:

- 1. The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through Municibid pursuant to State Contract #19-GNSV1-00696 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with Municibid are available online at municibid, com and also available from the Township of Readington.
- 2. The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is municibid.com
- 3. The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-09.

#### Resolution #R-2021-32 cont'd:

4. A list of the surplus property to be sold is as follows:

Year of Equip	Make	Model	Serial # or VIN	Item
				description
1991	GMC	Top Kick	1GDM7H1J6MJ502249	Truck Mounted
		4x4		Gen/Set
1997	Ford	F250	1FTHX26G0VEB07283	Pick up Truck
		XLT		_

- 5. The surplus property as identified shall be sold in an "as-is" condition without express or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property.
- 6. The Township of Readington reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.
- 6. \* Amendment to the 2021 Appointment Resolution

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

## #R-2021-33

## TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON RESOLUTION

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following **amended** appointments are made for the year 2021:

# **2021 APPOINTMENTS**

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT</u>	TERM/YEARS
PLANNING BOARD	M. ELIZABETH DUFFY(CL	ASS IV)TWO YEARS
	JERRY COOK(CLASS	II) THREE YEARS

- 7. \* Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 94, Lot 16.03 (Brown)
- 8. \* Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 38, Lot 59 (Ianniello)
- 9. \* Board of Adjustment 2019 Annual Report

## RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

## **REPORT ON VARIANCE APPLICATIONS – 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Adjustment of Readington Township, pursuant to 40:55D-70.1, has undertaken annual review of its decisions on applications and appeals for variances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to set forth by Resolution its findings on zoning ordinance provisions which were the subject of variance requests and its recommendations for zoning ordinance amendments or revisions; and

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 24 of 31

# Board of Adjustment Resolution cont'd:

**WHEREAS**, the Board directs its staff to forward copies of the report and Resolution to the Governing Body and Planning Board;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Board of Adjustment of Readington Township as follows: The following is a list of variances granted:

# **APPLICANT**

## **DESCRIPTION**

Hanrahan, Block 93, Lot 68	Approved a variance application for the
ADDROVED December 19, 2019	replacement of an existing detached garage
APPROVED December 18, 2018  Memorialized January 17, 2019	
Charnecky, Block 51.02, Lot 38	Approved variance relief for the construction
Charnecky, Block 31.02, Lot 38	of a single-family home
APPROVED December 18, 2018	
Memorialized January 17, 2019	
Courtney, Block 9, Lot 8	Approved variance for home occupation of a law office /"Whispering Woods" Settlement
APPROVED December 18, 2018	Hearing
Memorialized January 17, 2019	
New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC (AT&T), Block 61, Lot 5.02	Approved site plan waiver for modifications to existing telecommunications facility
APPROVED December 18, 2018	
Memorialized January 17, 2019	
Geraldine May-Lazar, Block 36, Lot 68.01	Approved variance for an addition to a single-
	family home
APPROVED January 17, 2019	
Memorialized February 21, 2019	
Burnett, Block 39, Lot 14	Approved an extension of previous variance approval for an addition on a single-family
APPROVED February 21, 2019	home
Memorialized February 21, 2019	
Gil Petroleum Inc., Block 30 Lot 1	Approved request from applicant to dismiss minor site plan application without prejudice
APPROVED February 21, 2019	
Memorialized February 21, 2019	
Randazzo, Block 95, Lot 2	Approved request from applicant to dismiss
,	appeal of Zoning Officer decision application
APPROVED April 18, 2019	regarding a billboard without prejudice
Memorialized April 18, 2019	
Whitehouse Center LLC, Block 39, Lot 65	Approved request from applicant to dismiss appeal of Zoning Officer decision application
APPROVED April 18, 2019	regarding storage containers without prejudice
Memorialized April 18, 2019	S = g == ng = ==========================
T Mobile Northeast LLC, Block 61 Lot 5.02	Approved site plan waiver for the installation of a back-up generator at existing
APPROVED April 18, 2019	telecommunications facility
Memorialized June 20, 2019	telecommunications facility
PMG Retail LLC (QuickChek), Block 39	Approved Preliminary & Final Site Plan with
Lots 56 & 57	Variances for the construction of a  QuickChek convenience store with fuel.
APPROVED June 20, 2019	Substance convenience store with ruot.
Memorialized July 18, 2019	
Black River Roasters, Block 7 Lot 4	Approved an extension of previous site plan
	approval for storage barn
APPROVED October 17, 2019	
Memorialized October 17, 2019	

# 11. \* Payment of Bills – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk's Office)

<b>Fund Description</b>	Fund No.	Re	eceived Total
CURRENT FUND	0-01	\$	1,107,315.71
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	0-02	\$	39,702.77
CURRENT FUND	1-01	\$	1,065,530.20
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	1-02	\$	98,682.50
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$	127,002.00
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TA	Χ,		
LIENS	X-05	\$	766,707.43
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$	445,033.30
<b>REG &amp; LOCAL SCHOOL TAX</b>	X-07	\$	6,702,645.89
DUE TO STATE OF NEW JER	SEY X-09	\$	350.00
2014 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-14	\$	18,900.00
2018 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-18	\$	712.00
2020 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-20	\$	16,188.77
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$1	0,388,770.57

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Consent Agenda (with the removal of Items #2, #5 and minutes of December 30, 2020 meeting) seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	-Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** for items listed on the agenda only

There were no comments from the public.

#### CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

- 1. Notice to Public Service Electric and Gas Company Customers in the *Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company for Approval of Changes in its Electric Tax Adjustment Credit and Gas Tax Adjustment Credit.* No action taken.
- 2. Notice of Public Hearings regarding *Petition of Elizabethtown Gas Company for Approval of New Energy Efficiency Programs and Associated Cost Recovery Pursuant to the Clean Energy Act and the Establishment of a Conservation Incentive Program.* No action taken.
- 3. Letter dated December 14, 2020 from David Grossmueller, Ph.D., Senior Permitting Specialist, PSE&G, regarding an *Application for an Extension of a Freshwater Wetlands General Permit Number 1 PSE&G Natural Gas Distribution and Transmission System Right-of Way Maintenance* (Entire File Available in Clerk's Office for Review). No action taken.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Application for Special Event Permit / Carlos Amarilla

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit for Carlos Amarilla, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

## 2. Application for Special Event Permit / Black River Roasters Food Truck Events

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit for Black River Roasters, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

## 3. Application for Special Event Permit / Barbara Mason

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit for Barbara Mason, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

## 4. Free Technical Assistance for Energy Initiatives Grant

Administrator Sheola recommended that the application for this grant not move forward at this time due to the volume of the request to pull records and time deadline.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Fort to deny the request for the application for the Energy Initiatives Grant at this time, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

## 5. \* 2021 Sewer Rate - memo dated January 11, 2021 from Michael Balogh, Tax Collector

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

## 6. Resolution to Accept Certified Market Value and Final Cost Share (Block 74, Lot 4)

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested clarification on the resolution and inquired on the determination of the certified market value of the property.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

## #R-2021-34

# TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has certified the market value (CMV) of a development easement on property in the Township of Readington known as Block 74 Lot 4 on the official tax map of Readington Township, located at 124 Rockafellows Mill Road and consisting of approximately 55.7 +/- acres (the "Premises"), with one non-severable exception area totaling approximately 4 acres, owned by the Township of Readington ("Property Owner") which farm (also referred to herein as "the Saums Farm") is contained in Readington Township's Municipal Planning Incentive Grant list of farms and for which the Property Owner made an application to the Hunterdon County Planning Incentive Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, outside of the 4-acre non-severable exception area, which has been reserved for future flexibility and is limited to one existing single-family residential unit, there are zero (0) residential dwelling site opportunities, zero (0) agricultural labor units, zero (0) existing dwellings and zero (0) pre-existing non-agricultural uses contained upon the easement area; and

*WHEREAS*, the Township has been advised that the SADC, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-7.14, has certified the value at \$11,500.00 per acre, with a resulting cost-share from the SADC of approximately \$6,900.00 per acre (approximately 60% of the estimated total cost) and the County of Hunterdon and the Township of Readington at approximately 20% of CMV each, or approximately \$2,300.00 per acre; and

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 27 of 31

#### Resolution #R-2021-34 cont'd:

WHEREAS, as a condition of receiving a cost share grant, the Township must acknowledge, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-6.23(b)(1), that if it sells the deed-restricted Premises for more than the "after" value, which in this case the SADC ("the Committee") has certified at \$7,200 per acre, the Township shall reimburse the Committee any funds previously paid by the Committee for the development easement on a pro-rated basis up to the amount of the Committee's cost share grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is willing to approve and accept the purchase price of \$11,500.00 per acre, as determined by the SADC.

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED* that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey:

- 1. The Township Committee approves and accepts the certified value of \$11,500.00 per acre determined by the SADC for the purchase price of the development easement on the property it owns known as Block 74, Lot 4 in the Township; and
- 2. Grants and commits its final approval to fund the purchase of the development easement by the County of Hunterdon on the property the Township owns known as Bl. 74, Lot 4 based on the cost share calculated by the SADC in the approximate amount of 20% of the CMV of \$11,500.00 per acre  $(50.7 + acres \times \$2,300 = \$116,610 + -)$ , subject to any adjustments for survey or title.
- 2. Funding from Readington Township will be deducted from the final purchase price paid at closing for the development rights easement, as determined by the SADC and/or County, as appropriate.
- 3. The Township's funding is conditioned on both the SADC and the County of Hunterdon adopting final resolutions approving their respective cost-shares and the County of Hunterdon entering into a contract with the Township for the purchase of the development rights easement on Block 74, Lot 4
- 4. The Township acknowledges that, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-6.23(b)(1), that if it sells the deed-restricted premises for more than the SADC certified "after" value of \$7,200 per acre, then Township shall reimburse the SADC any funds previously paid by the SADC for the development easement on a pro-rated basis up to the amount of the SADC's cost share grant; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Municipal Clerk is directed to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Hunterdon County Agricultural Development Board and the New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee as requested and required.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller -Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

7. \* Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property (Department of Public Works)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

9. \* Amendment to the 2021 Appointment Resolution

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 28 of 31

10. Resolution Authorizing the Special Tax Counsel for the Township of Readington to Enter into a Stipulation of Settlement Relative to the Tax Appeals Captioned:

<u>FH Golf Partners, LLC vs. Readington Township,</u> Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket No. 006097-2018, 005577-2019 and 005765-2020

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested further clarification on the resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#### #R-2021-35

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON TO ENTER INTO A STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT RELATIVE TO THE TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED: <u>FH GOLF PARTNERS</u>, LLC vs. READINGTON TOWNSHIP, TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY, DOCKET NO. 006097-2018, 005577-2019 AND 005765-2020

**WHEREAS**, FH GOLF PARTNERS, LLC ("FH Golf") is the owner of property shown as Block 15, Lot 28 on the Township of Readington's Tax Assessment Maps, commonly known as Fox Hollow Golf Course ("Property"); and

*WHEREAS*, FH Golf filed appeals of their 2018, 2019 and 2020 tax year assessments in the Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket Nos. 006097-2018, 005577-2019 and 005765-2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington met and discussed the aforesaid tax appeals and the recommendations of its Township Tax Assessor and Special Tax Counsel; and

WHEREAS, FH Golf purchased the Property on February 5, 2018 for a deed consideration of \$975,000, and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Tax Assessor has reviewed the market value of the Property and in light of that market, including the aforesaid purchase price of the subject property, she recommends the settlement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township has conducted and is about to implement a 2021 revaluation of the entire Readington Township taxing district; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to an acceptable settlement of all of the aforesaid tax appeals which affirms the \$2,129,500 total tax assessments for the 2018, 2019 and 2020 tax years, and subject to the conditions in the annexed Stipulation of Settlement adjusts "on the books" the 2021 and 2022 tax years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has reviewed the proposed Stipulation of Settlement; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 and 2022 total tax assessments on the Property shall be set on the assessment books at \$2,563,500, subject to revision for the 2022 year if warranted as a result of improvements to the property, and that the Assessor has the right to file added or omitted assessments if warranted, and that FH Golf shall have the right to file a tax appeal of any added, omitted assessments or change in the agreed upon 2022 assessment, all as more specifically provided for in the Stipulation of Settlement; and

WHEREAS, the Freeze Act is waived; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee makes this settlement with FH GOLF, without prejudice to its dealing with any other Readington Township's taxpayers' request for tax assessment reduction.

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 29 of 31

#### Resolution #R-2021-35 cont'd:

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Special Tax Counsel is hereby authorized to execute a Stipulation of Settlement relative to the tax appeal of FH GOLF PARTNERS, LLC, Docket Nos. 006097-2018, 005577-2019 and 005765-2020, which affirms the 2018, 2019 and 2020 assessments; which further provides that the total assessment on Block 15, Lot 28 shall be set by the Township Tax Assessor at \$2,563,500; in the tax years 2021 and 2022, at allocations between land and improvements as established by the Township Tax Assessor, and as further set forth in said Stipulation of Settlement.
- 2. The settlement outlined above shall be without prejudice to the Township of Readington's dealings with any other Township taxpayers' request for tax assessment reductions. The Township of Readington

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of December 30, 2020

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested an explanation on the transfer of funds into the recycling budget.

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2020 meeting, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

11. \* Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 94, Lot 16.03 (Brown)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

12. \* Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 38, Lot 59 (Ianniello)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

13. \* Board of Adjustment 2019 Annual Report

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Sheola reported that he is working on the 2021 budget.

#### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that there was a meeting with representatives from Toll Brothers/Regency at Readington.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **BETTY ANN FORT**

Mrs. Fort stated that she had nothing further to report.

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 30 of 31

#### JONATHAN HELLER

Mr. Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

#### JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH

Mr. Huelsebusch reported that the Open Space Advisory Board is holding internal volunteer sessions on the trail systems and discussing the Meadow Management Plan.

#### **BENJAMIN SMITH**

Mr. Smith stated that he had nothing further to report.

## **JOHN ALBANESE**

Mayor Albanese reported that the Planning Board will be reviewing the recommendations noted in the Board of Adjustment 2019 Annual Report.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, commented on the availability of resolutions prior to a meeting.

## COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

There were none.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

# RESOLUTION EXECUTIVE SESSION

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

*NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit "A."

# Subject Matter Basis Of Public Exclusion Arbitration-PBA... Attorney-Client Privilege... Affordable Housing... Potential Litigation... Potential Litigation... Potential Litigation... Personnel... Personnel... Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight... other . Information will remain confidential " " " Personnel... Personnel... Personnel... Personnel... " " "

Readington Township Committee Meeting - January 19, 2021 Page 31 of 31

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit "A."

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

#### Executive Session:

## Attorney-Client Privilege / Arbitration-PBA

This matter will be addressed on the February 1, 2021 agenda.

## Potential Litigation/Affordable Housing

- Contract Negotiations/SAVE Associates
- Potential Litigation/216 Dove Cote Court

This matter will be addressed on the February 1, 2021 agenda.

#### Personnel/Personnel

This matter will be addressed on the February 1, 2021 agenda.

As there was no further business, *A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith at 8:55 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karin M Parker, *RMC* Municipal Clerk